PATENT 450100-03484

IFW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Tetsujiro Kondo, et al.

Notice of Allowance

Dated: 05/04/2005

Serial No.

09/950,019

Confirmation No. 1726

For

IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS, IMAGE

PROCESSING METHOD, AND RECORDING

MEDIUM

Filed

: September 10, 2001

Examiner

Mariam, Daniel G.

Art Unit

2621

745 Fifth Avenue New York, New York 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 3, 2005

Thomas F. Presson, Reg. No. 41,442

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

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Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed May 4, 2005. To the extent the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are

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allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP Attorneys for Applicants

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